

## Today's News - Friday, October 24, 2014

EDITOR'S NOTE: Monday is next week's "floating" no-newsletter day. We'll be back Tuesday, October 28.

- Glancey gabs with Gehry re: Paris's "most exciting new building in a generation. For all its flamboyance, it feels as though it belongs here - it is all architectural adventure."
- Zara cheers "Gehry's imagination run wild. It is awe-inspiring. It is a triumph. This is Gehry with a capital G" (with bunches of her own photos).
- Meanwhile, the Big G goes to Spain to pick up an award, and ends up calling 98% of modern architecture "pure sh!t," and gives a journalist the finger (for which apologized).
- The online gallery of Guggenheim Helsinki submissions "is as extensive as it is overwhelming - it is clear that the designers got the message; while the plans may range in quality and viability, nobody played it safe."
- Wainwright explains how a Swedish town plans to relocate, in toto, so it doesn't fall into a mine: it will be "dismantled and resurrected like an Ikea flatpack on a grand scale. But it is a vision that many of the existing residents seem unlikely to be able to afford."
- A round-up of The Cultural Landscape Foundation's list of 11 threatened or at-risk American landscapes.
- Grand plans to transform Granada Studios into the Manchester Grande "event hotel."
- Foster tells Tholl "how architecture helps us communicate, where our fascination with bigness stems from, and why we need to do more with less."
- Zumthor talks to Turner about his LACMA expansion plans and his love of L.A. (and tar).
- An amusing Q&A with Dykers re: designing Norway's currency, Times Square, and tchotchkes.
- Barton balks at those who continue to look down on interior architecture courses - it's time to stop.
- Weekend diversions:
- Jacobs gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Wenders' "Cathedrals of Culture": "As far as the concept goes, it turns out that buildings speak better in pictures than in words."
- A new documentary on EAA - Emre Arolat Architects' Sancaklar Mosque, "a building that stands out as one of the rare examples of modern architecture among Turkey's Islamic places of worship."
- Giovannini takes a long look at Moore's "Why We Build": it's "jargon-free, highly readable and even enjoyable: paced, rich, detailed, sweeping, droll, insightful, unexpected" - and throws in his own thoughtful take on Hadid's architecture "on its own merits."
- Doig gives (mostly) thumbs-up to Lerner's "Urban Acupuncture": "some of Lerner's ideas do feel a little like Creative Class whimsy run amok."
- Lerner wows an NYC crowd, calling "for less 'ego' architects, and more 'eco' architects. 'The city is more than just a fashion show.'"
- Rademacher's "Mellon Square" offers "fascinating glimpses of a highly tenuous time for the field" of landscape architecture, and valuable lessons for those considering historic restoration of public spaces in other cities.
- Welton says "It's hard not to marvel at the multifaceted arc of Michael Graves' 50-year career" as the Po-Mo master is honored with two exhibitions and an upcoming symposium.
- Barton Myers takes center stage in a "beautifully curated" retrospective at UC Santa Barbara: "Today we call this kind of urban planning interesting and intelligent; in 1968, it was revolutionary."
- One we couldn't resist: an architect's own (very cool) house in Massachusetts serves as the fictitious Chicago home of Robert Downey Jr. in "The Judge."

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Fondation Louis Vuitton: Paris's most exciting new building in a generation: Frank Gehry tells Jonathan Glancey about the inspirations for his masterful new gallery in Paris: ...represents the evergreen 85-year old Gehry doing one of the things he does best...For all its flamboyance, it feels as though it belongs here...it is all architectural adventure...the building appears to be tacking into the urban wind. [\[images\]](#)- Telegraph (UK)

Inside the Very Gehry Fondation Louis Vuitton: It all embodies Gehry's imagination run wild, unhindered by constraints of cost or regulation: It is awe-inspiring. It is a triumph...an immaculately constructed ornament, a visual testament to wealth carrying goods of untold value inside. The only difference is that it brandishes not one luxury brand in bold, uppercase letters, but two. This is Gehry with a capital G. By Janelle Zara [\[images\]](#)- Architizer

Frank Gehry gives journalist the finger: Architect describes 98% of modern architecture as 'pure shit' during press conference in northern Spain...was in Oviedo to collect the Prince of Asturias prize...'There's no sense of design, no respect for humanity or for anything else. They are damn buildings and that's it'...later apologised for his behaviour, explaining that he had jet lag...- Guardian (UK)

The Helsinki Effect: Guggenheim competition draws huge interest, but project remains disputed...online gallery of submissions is as extensive as it is overwhelming...it is clear that the designers got the message; while the plans may range in quality and viability, nobody played it safe...The pro-museum crowd hopes to recreate the "Bilbao Effect"...spawned "The Next Helsinki" - a rival competition... By Henry Melcher- The Architect's Newspaper

Kiruna: the town being moved 3km east so it doesn't fall into a mine: Sweden's most northerly town is being relocated to avoid being swallowed up by the world's largest iron-ore mine: ...20 key buildings...to be dismantled and resurrected...like an Ikea flatpack on a grand scale...an opportunity...for Kiruna to "reinvent itself" into a model of sustainable development...But it is a vision that many of the existing residents seem unlikely to be able to afford. By Oliver Wainwright -- White architects; Henning Larsen [\[images\]](#)- Guardian (UK)

Are These 11 American Art Landscapes Worth Saving? The annual Landslide, The Cultural Landscape Foundation's list of threatened or at-risk land-based art sites...range from ancient rock carvings and folk art to environmental projects and contemporary light installations. -- Charles A. Birnbaum; Simon Rodia; Tyree Guyton; Russell Page; Harvey Fite; Mary Mss; Robert Morris; Athena Tacha; Leo Villareal; Frances Bagley/Tom Orr; etc. [\[images\]](#)- Artnet

Levitt Bernstein to turn Granada Studios into Manchester Grande hotel: Ralph Tubbs building will become first 'event hotel'...Ian Simpson is masterplanning the Granada Studios site and Buckley Gray Yeoman has already been appointed to refurbish a historic warehouse next to the studios. [\[images\]](#)- BD/Building Design (UK)

"Architecture is an expression of values": Sir Norman Foster is the mastermind behind some of the world's most iconic buildings. With Max Tholl, he discussed how architecture helps us communicate, where our fascination with bigness stems from, and why we need to do more with less. - The European magazine

Peter Zumthor on LACMA: The Swiss architect talks about his plans for a massive extension to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and his love of L.A. By Christopher Turner- Icon (UK)

Norse Gods Now Have His Number: Q&A with Craig Dykers of Snohetta on his melting pot of projects, including designing Norway's currency...Times Square...tchotchkes...- New York Times

Gemma Barton: don't look down on interior architecture courses: An education in interior architecture is still looked down on when compared to architecture. But it shouldn't be so, she argues, when it prepares students admirably for all aspects of the design world.- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

Why It's So Hard To Make A Decent Architecture Film: Can Wim Wenders, one of the most imaginative filmmakers to portray cities, get it right? "Cathedrals of Culture"...should give moviegoers hope...As far as the concept goes, it turns out that buildings speak better in pictures than in words. By Karrie Jacobs - Fast Company

The Anatomy of a Building: "Sancaklar Mosque": SGMStudio (Sarraf | Galeyan | Mekanik) has filmed a short documentary on EAA – Emre Arolat Architects' Sancaklar Mosque - a building that stands out as one of the rare examples of modern architecture among Turkey's Islamic places of worship. [video]- Archinect

La Comédie Architecturale: "Why We Build" by Rowan Moore: ...review refocuses on Moore's book, and discusses Zaha Hadid's architecture, on its own merits, in the context of Moore's arguments...Intellectually ambitious but jargon-free...highly readable and even enjoyable: paced, rich, detailed, sweeping, droll, insightful, unexpected. By Joseph Giovannini -- Foster + Partners; James Corner Field Operations; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Lina Bo Bardi; Kazimir Malevich- Los Angeles Review of Books

Former Curitiba Mayor Jaime Lerner on Healing Cities With "Urban Acupuncture: Celebrating Pinpricks of Change That Enrich City Life": "If only cities had fewer peddlers of complexity and more philosophers!" ...some of Lerner's ideas do feel a little like Creative Class whimsy run amok...Compared to Lerner's let's-see-what-sticks approach, Jan Gehl's is a highly analytic process that puts its trust in the scientific method. Can there be middle ground between these two ideologies?

By Will Doig- Next City (formerly Next American City)

Lessons from Brazil: Urban Acupuncture With Architect-turned-Mayor Jaime Lerner: ...calls for less "ego" architects, and more "eco" architects. "The city is more than just a fashion show"...- Architizer

"Mellon Square: Discovering a Modern Masterpiece" by Susan Rademacher: ...fascinating glimpses of a highly tenuous time for the field...Those hoping to gain insight for approaching a historic restoration in other cities will also find much to learn from. By Yoshi Silverstein- The Dirt/American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Michael Graves: Five Decades of Architecture, Art and Design: It's hard not to marvel at the multifaceted arc of his 50-year career - and three events this fall will enable his followers to do exactly that..."Past as Prologue" at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, N.J...Architectural League of New York will be organizing an academic symposium...Vendome Gallery...60 of his paintings. By J. Michael Welton [images]- Huffington Post

"Barton Myers: Works of Architecture and Urbanism": A beautiful selection of work is on display at UCSB's Art, Design & Architecture Museum...managed to create a beautiful balance of respect for historic preservation and a deep concern for the experience of modern urban living. Today we call this kind of urban planning interesting and intelligent; in 1968, it was revolutionary...beautifully curated...- Santa Barbara Independent (California)

Robert Downey Jr.'s "The Judge" Features Local Architect's Belmont House: ...audiences worldwide will see the Copper House as the fictitious Chicago home of Downey, Jr..."I haven't seen it yet, but I hear it has some terrific architecture." -- Charles Rose Architects [slide show]- Boston Globe



-- The International Photography Awards: winners of the 7 architecture subcategories.  
-- Irene Kung: ...has expanded her repertoire to include photography..."I am fascinated by architecture as an extraordinary and indicative expression of human beings."  
-- "Constructing Worlds - Photography and Architecture in the Modern Age," Barbican Art Gallery: These photographs offer a way of understanding the architects' intentions in relation to the lived reality... By Kirsten Kiser

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